(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Airstrip at Bihar shariff, Bihar

5457. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to expand and develop the Airstrip at Biharshariff in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Crash of Helicopters of Vayudoot in Kerala

5458. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether two Helicopters of Agro-Aviation Division of Vayudoot crashed in Kerala recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government have instituted any enquiry in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Cheetah helicopter VT-ETY crashed on 19.5.1991, while engaged in spray operations. It got entangled with the high tension wire, fell on a rubber plantation and hit the trees. It was destroyed due to post-impact fire. The pilot died in the accident.

Another Bell-47 G-5 helicopter VT-DWP crashed on 16.6.1991, while engaged in spray operations. It developed engine problem and crash-landed on the rubber plantation. The helicopter sustained substantial damage but there was no fire. The pilot received serious injuries.

The Director General of Civil Aviation has appointed Inspectors of Accidents under Rule 71 of Aircraft Rules, 1937 for both these accidents for carrying out investigation into the causes of the above accidents.

Recruitment in ITDC

5459. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) when ban on recruitment and promotion was imposed in the ITDC by the Government/ITDC Management;

(b) the dates when the ban so imposed was withdrawn or relaxed with reasons and justification therefore;

(c) whether any recruitment or promotion were made in ITDC during the period of the ban; and

(d) if so, the details and reasons thereof, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). In order to effect economy, the Ministry of Tourism issued instructions to the ITDC on 7.2.1991 to review the staff, position at all levels and not to fill posts until this was done. Subsequently, clarifications were issued by the Ministry on 15.2.91 that the directive on ban on filling up posts would not apply to the posts reserved for SC/ST categories as well as posts to be filled by internal promotion as per the Recruitment, Promotion and Seniority Rules of there Corporation. The Board of Directors of ITDC reiterated this decision at its meeting held on 28.2.1991.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Statement is appended.